

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference JGP/7862 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/02614	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.06.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 19.06.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B64C25/16		
Applicant AIRBUS UK LIMITED et al.		

- This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

 These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

- This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - ☐ Priority
 - ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - ☐ Certain documents cited
 - ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 05.01.2004	Date of completion of this report 15.07.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Pedersen, K Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2874 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/02614**

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17))*):

Description, Pages

1-13 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-24 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/5-5/5 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

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5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	14
	No: Claims	1-13, 15-24
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	14
	No: Claims	1-13, 15-24
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-24
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Point V, 2

1. Cited documents (D):

D1: US-A-2 452 251
D2: US-A-2 406 710
D3: US-A-3 372 892
D4: US-A-2 362 919
D5: WO-A-01 56878

2. Independent claim 1:

2.1 With particular reference to Figures 5 and 6 the document D1 discloses

an aircraft landing gear door assembly including a plurality of doors (40, 42) moveable between open positions (substantially vertical position indicated by dotted lines), in which [the] landing gear (11a) can be deployed through an aperture, and closed positions (substantially horizontal positions indicated in solid lines), in which the doors are closed across the aperture, the plurality of doors including a first door (40) and a second door (42),

the first and second doors are so arranged that they are, in use, configurable in such a way that movement of one of the first and second doors (in this case the first door 40) for at least part of the way between the open and closed positions causes movement of the other of the first and second doors (in this case the second door 42, by virtue of it being mounted to the first door 40, cf. Fig. 6), and

the first and second doors are arranged such that, when the landing gear (11a) is deployed, the second door (42) is obstructed from moving between its open and closed positions (cf. Fig. 6 and col. 5, l. 16-25) while the first door (40) is free to move between its open and closed positions (cf. Figure 6).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore not new (Article 33(1) and (2) PCT).

2.2 The relatively broad wording of claim 1 can also be read on D2 (cf. first (6) and second (16) doors), and its subject-matter is therefore also not new in view of this document.

2.3 Noting that the relatively broad and vague wording "... so arranged that they are, in use, *configurable* in such a way that..." only implies that the opening and closing

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of the doors *can be* linked - not that they *are* - as described in the subsequent part of the claim, the wording of claim 1 can also be read on D3 (cf. first (23) and second (24) doors, col. 2, l. 51-56 and Figure 1) and its subject-matter is therefore also not new in view of this document.

3. Dependent claims 2-18:

3.1 The additional features of claims 2-3, 5-13 and 15-18 are known from D1.

The additional features of claim 4 are known from D3, which also discloses the additional features of claims 2, 3 and 18

D2 also discloses the additional features of claims 3, 5 and 9-11.

None of the available prior art shows or suggests the additional features of dependent claim 14.

4. Independent claim 19:

The subject-matter of independent method claim 19 is not new (Article 33(1) and (2) PCT):

4.1 It follows from the assessment of D1 in Point 2.1 that a method according to claim 19 is also known from D1.

4.2 It follows from the assessment of D3 in Point 2.1 that a method according to claim 19 is also known from D3.

5. Dependent claim 20:

5.1 The additional method steps of this claim are known from D1 and D3.

6. Independent claim 21:

The subject-matter of independent method claim 21 is not new (Article 33(1) and (2) PCT):

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6.1 It follows from the assessment of D1 in Point 2.1 that a method according to claim 21 is also known from D1, movement of the first and second doors without relative movement by virtue of the second door being mounted to the first door.

6.2 It would appear that the two doors in D3 are closed together when the undercarriage is retracted, such that a method according to claim 21 is also known from this document.

7. Dependent method claims 22-24:

7.1 The additional method steps of claims 22-24 are known from D1.

D3 also discloses the additional method steps of claim 22.

Further Observations

1. Contrary to the requirements for clarity and conciseness of the claims, the application comprises more than a single independent claim in each category (Article 6 PCT).
2. The features of the claims are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).
3. The independent claims are not drafted in the two part form (Rule 6.3(b) PCT).
4. Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1, D2 and D3 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.